

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

301 State House
(317) 232-9855

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 7896

BILL NUMBER: HB 1981

DATE PREPARED: Jan 10, 2001

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Utility Worker Skills and Training Standards.

FISCAL ANALYST: John Parkey

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FUNDS AFFECTED: **GENERAL**
 X DEDICATED
 FEDERAL

IMPACT: State

Summary of Legislation: This bill requires the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission (IURC) to adopt rules to establish skill and training standards for workers who construct, remodel, operate, or maintain electric utilities in Indiana. The bill requires the IURC to incorporate in these rules any regulations that are adopted by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission or any other federal agency having jurisdiction over the subject.

Effective Date: July 1, 2001.

Explanation of State Expenditures: This proposal will require the IURC to adopt rules that establish skill and training standards for workers who construct, remodel, operate, or maintain electric utilities. The IURC is expected to be able to absorb any costs associated with developing these rules using existing staff and resources.

Explanation of State Revenues: The Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission and the Office of the Utility Consumer Counselor are funded by public utilities. The annual fee charged to utilities is based on the budgets of these two agencies. At the end of the fiscal year, if the total public utility fees in the Public Utility Fund plus the unspent balance of the Fund exceeds the total appropriations for the IURC and the OUCC (plus a \$250,000 contingency fund), then the IURC must compute each utility's share of the excess. This share is then deducted from any subsequent payment of the utility's public utility fees. In FY 2000, public utility fines and fees generated \$8,053,986.

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission; Office of the Utility Consumer

Counselor.

Local Agencies Affected:

Information Sources: